Import of paper for printing currency notes

2179. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a special kind of paper is imported for printing of currency notes;

(b) if so, how the fake currency note printers get access to that kind of paper;

(c) whether Government have investigated this matter;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The laboratory tests of fake Indian Currency notes carried out so far have shown that the paper used for printing of fake Indian Currency is not a genuine banknote paper used for printing of Indian bank notes.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

AID to weavers

2180. SHRI SANJAY RAJARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have received any proposal from the States for extending necessary assistane to tide over the crisis of the weavers in their States, particularly State Government of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps are taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Criminal case against Auto Rider Finance Ltd.

2181. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether UTI has filed a criminal case against Auto Rider Finance Ltd. recently in a Metropolitan Magistrate Court in Mumbai; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir; A criminal complaint under Section 406 and 420 read with 120B of Indian Penal Code has been filed by Specified Undertaking of UTI (SUUTI)/UTI Mutual Fund (UTIMF) before Metropolitan Magistrate, Mumbai on 1st April, 2004.

Hon'ble Magistrate has forwarded the matter to Azad Maidan Police Station for further investigation. The matter will come before Court on 8th September, 2004 for report.

Proposal for bringing certain States under ambit of Panchayati Raj Act

2182. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question 119 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th July, 2004 and state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to bring Mizoram, Meghalaya and Nagaland under the ambit of the Panchayati Raj Act; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Establishment of Panchayati Training Centres

2183. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have received proposals from State Governments for establishing more Panchayati Training Centres to improve the skills of functionaries of Panchayati Raj.

(b) if so, the details therof and the training centres proposed to be set-up; and

(c) by when the proposals are expected to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (c) Government extends assistance to State Governments for imparting training to elected representatives and official functionaries. There is, however, no scheme under which financial assistance is provided by the Government for establishing Panchayati Raj Training Centres.